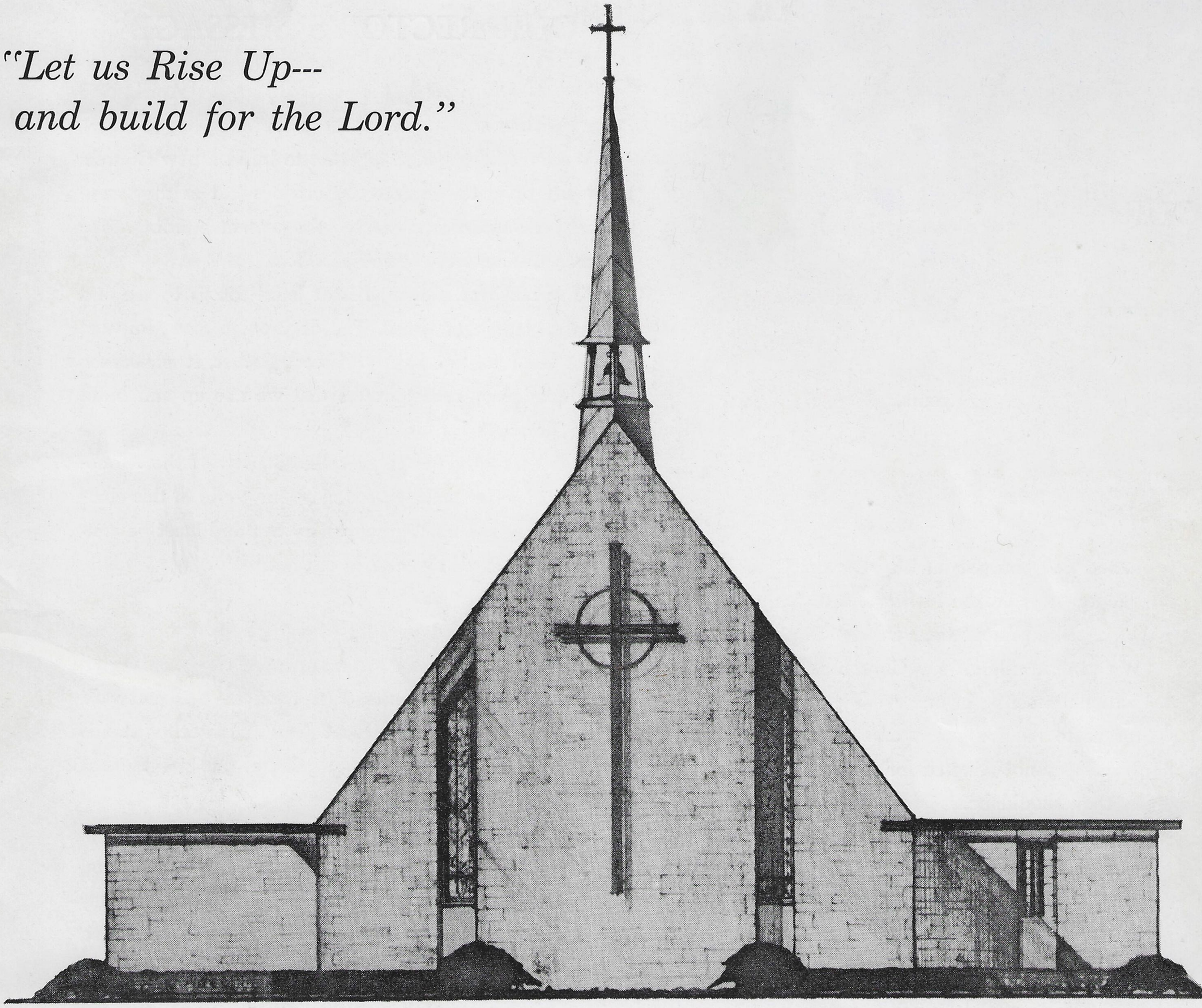
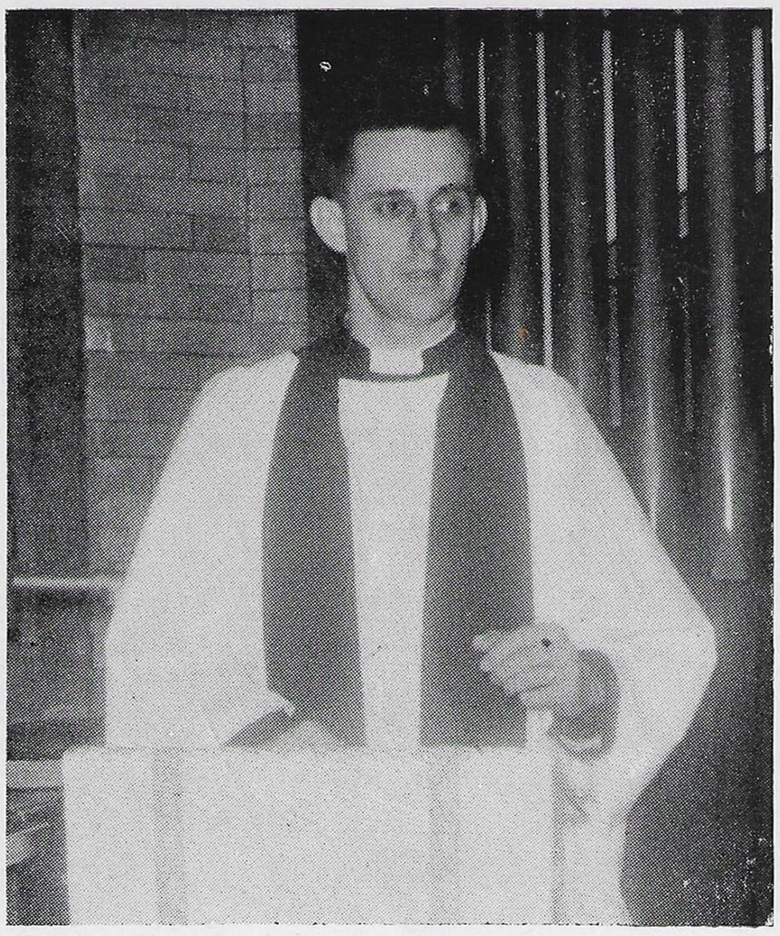
"Let us Rise Up---
and build for the Lord."



CHURCH OF THE ATONEMENT

MORTON, PENNSYLVANIA

1959



OUR RECTOR'S MESSAGE

April, 1959

Dear Parishioners:

We have been called together to build a new Church. For many of us the reasons are obvious just as they were to our predecessors who erected the present buildings. We are in fact, inheritors of their sacrifices.

Now however, the time is at hand for us to see and fulfill the challenges ahead. The decision to move forward has not been easy or lightly viewed. Rather, it is because of our missionary consciousness that we rise up and build for the Lord.

It is necessary to see that the Church of the Atonement has in a real sense a missionary job to do in this community. Many nominal Episcopalians can and must be contacted and brought back to Christ's Church. The faithful must be called together to combat the evils of juvenile delinquency, broken homes and to "spread the good news."

At the present time we cannot possibly accomplish the work at hand because of our physical limitations. We cannot enlarge our Church School enrollment and we cannot provide facilities for more than one organizational meeting in one evening. The difficulties are notably obvious. Another delicate truth is, it is awkward for us to receive guests and new communicants at our worship services. The present pews and kneeling stands are simply not adapted for people of large stature. Thus our worship services are not graceful and spontaneous as they should be.

"Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the word, happy is he." The Holy Scripture exhorts us to look ever Christ-ward that our vision may be kept bright and centered in Him. If the vision is to be kept bright and clear we will have to grasp the meaning of sacrificial offering . . . of ourselves, our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice unto Him. Here is the vision, that our young may grow faithful in Christ, that our youth may dedicate itself to Christian vocation in Christian Education and the Priesthood. That the beaming bride and groom may look with joy at their marriage in our Church. That their young may be received into Holy Baptism and the souls departed may receive their final earthly blessing here . . . and that each Sunday the whole congregation, young and young in spirit alike may raise their voices to Almighty God in praise and thanksgiving. This is the vision that one and all this day may be able to dedicate themselves . . . time and tithe to their God. Then we will truly say . . . "I was glad when they said unto me, We will go into the House of the Lord."

Faithfully yours,

Clayton Hewett

Rector

OUR HERITAGE

1876 A group of the faithful gathered together in the home of Susan J. Pearce to read the Holy Scripture and to discuss the possibilities of the future.

1879 In April a meeting was called at the home of John H. Irwin to organize a permanent Church and to nominate Vestrymen. In May the first call to worship was given on Sunday Morning at Mrs. Pearce's home, Dr. W. W. Spears officiating. Church School was organized in the Irwin household with a nucleus of 23 pupils and 4 teachers. In July, the first Vestry meeting was held in the home of Dr. K. Goodard. There, in true tradition of our Church, the by-laws and constitution for the new Parish were officially approved . . . the Church of the Atonement was called into being on October 14, 1879.

1880 The missionary spirit bore fruit in this significant year. Mr. Irwin donated two strategically located lots, actually the present Church site. In June of that year the corner stone was laid at the tremendous cost of $12.00. The total outlay for the new Church building was $5,136.

1881 On April 28th the Church of the Atonement was consecrated by the Rt. Rev. William B. Stevens, the fourth Bishop of this Diocese. The first Church service was held in December.

1882 The growing Church School donated significantly toward a new Church bell.

1884 An organ was purchased for $186.00.

1889 In March a frame addition was added to the Church to be used for the Church School.

1892 Land was acquired by the Church for future additions—Ground was broken for the Rectory in 1893 and the work was completed in 1894.

1897 The Church School, with the permission of the Vestry, donated a new Altar for our sanctuary, supplemented by an Altar Rail given by the Brotherhood of St. Andrew.

1913 The present Parish House was completed in October. Total cost was $4,735.96.

1923 In the spirit of moving forward the Rev. Wm. C. Kilpatrick, Rector, made arrangements to establish a new mission in Springfield. This is now the Church of the Redeemer, one of the finest Parishes in the Diocese.

1924 On October 7th, a new organ was purchased for $2,800.

1925 The Church greatly improved it's esthetic beauty with the acquisition of stained glass windows from St. James Church, Philadelphia.

1947 The Rectory adjoining the Church was sold to provide funds for the new Rectory being constructed opposite the Church on Amosland Road. This was completed in 1952, during the Rectorship of the Rev. Stuart Thomas.

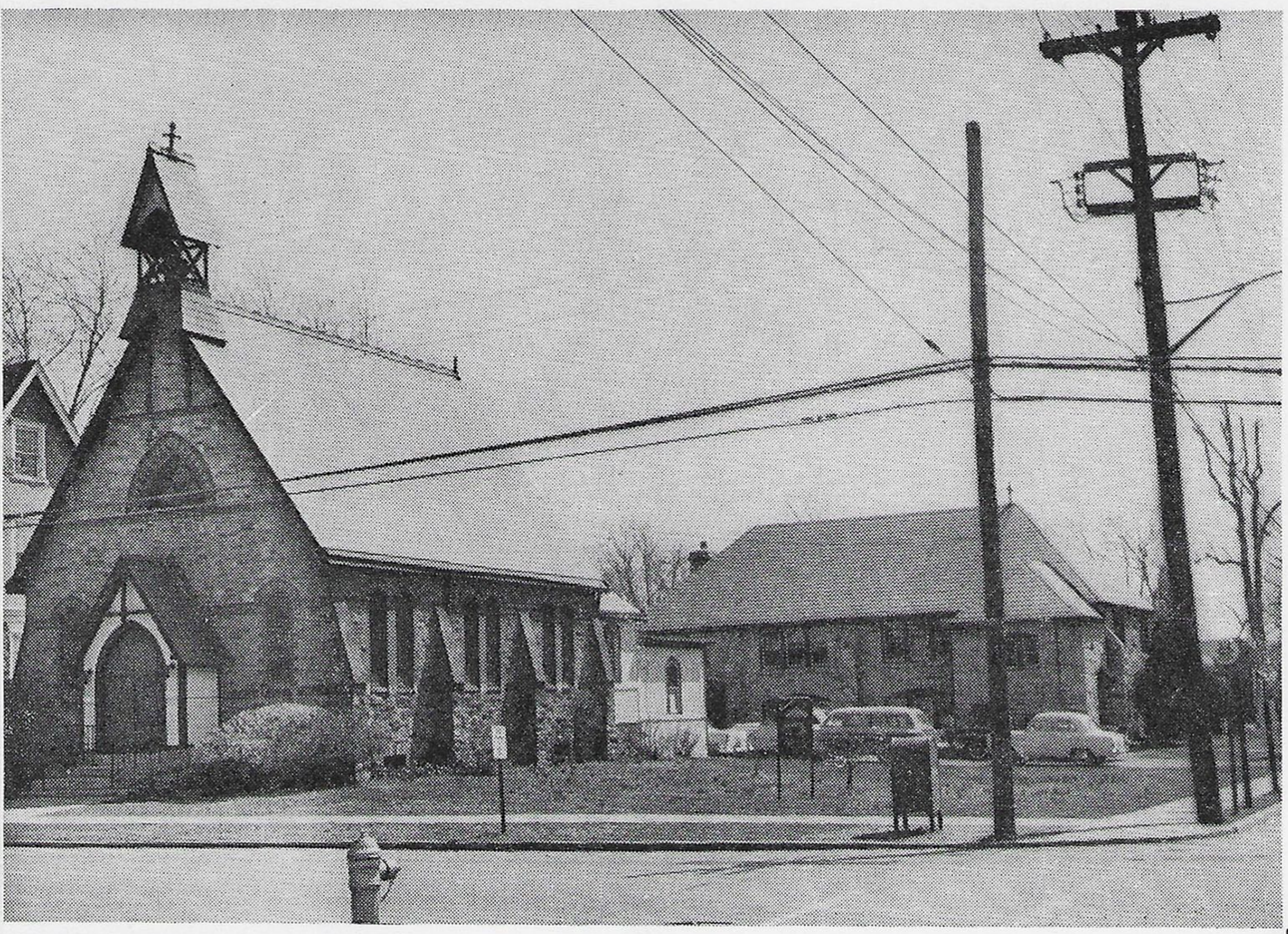
1953 The Parish continued to move forward in the years to follow, under the leadership of the Rev. Mr. Thomas and Canon Ernest Sinfield. It should be noted that we were blessed with a great spiritual guide and leader during a time of industrial upheaval in our area.

1958 In December, the Rev. Clayton K. Hewett was appointed Rector. Overcrowded conditions in a growing community pointed up the need for a serious review and appraisal of the present building in terms of meeting the needs of our expanding congregation. With this in mind and under the Rev. Mr. Hewett's guidance, the proposed building program was initiated.

This, then, is our heritage—Being sown in the seed of the missionary spirit by our forefathers we are called again to build a new Church.

"Rise Up O Men of God"

"The Church for you doth wait . . ."



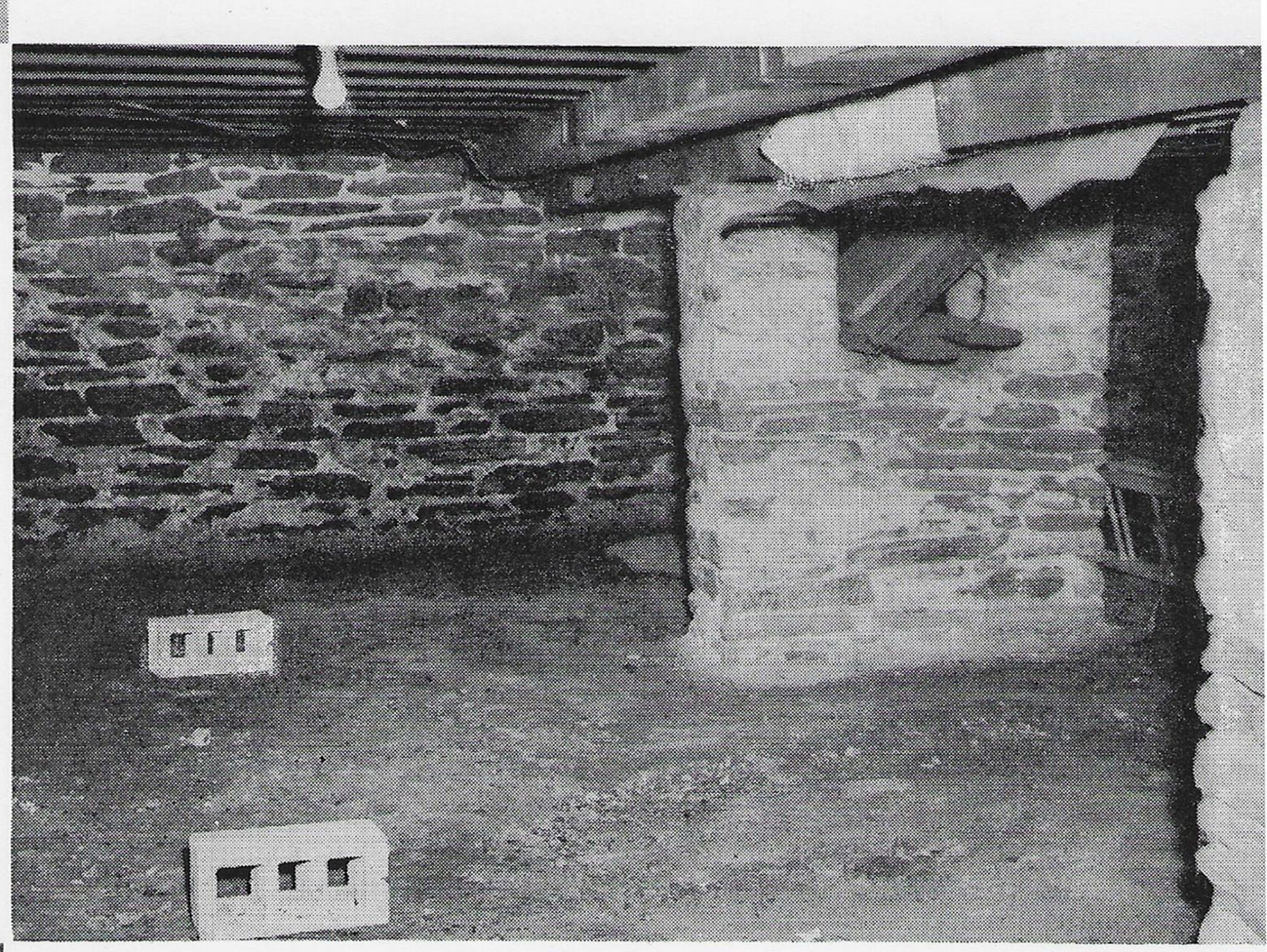
"If the foundations be such—What shall the faithful do. . . ."

Let their hand be strengthened by God.

OUR CHURCH

"For There Is a Time to Tear Down and a Time to Build Up."

The few worshippers that attended the Church of the Atonement in 1880 found it more than adequate for their needs. Today, with the exodus of people to the suburbs, we are barely able to accommodate 30% of our parish at any one service. Our need for a new and larger Church is great!



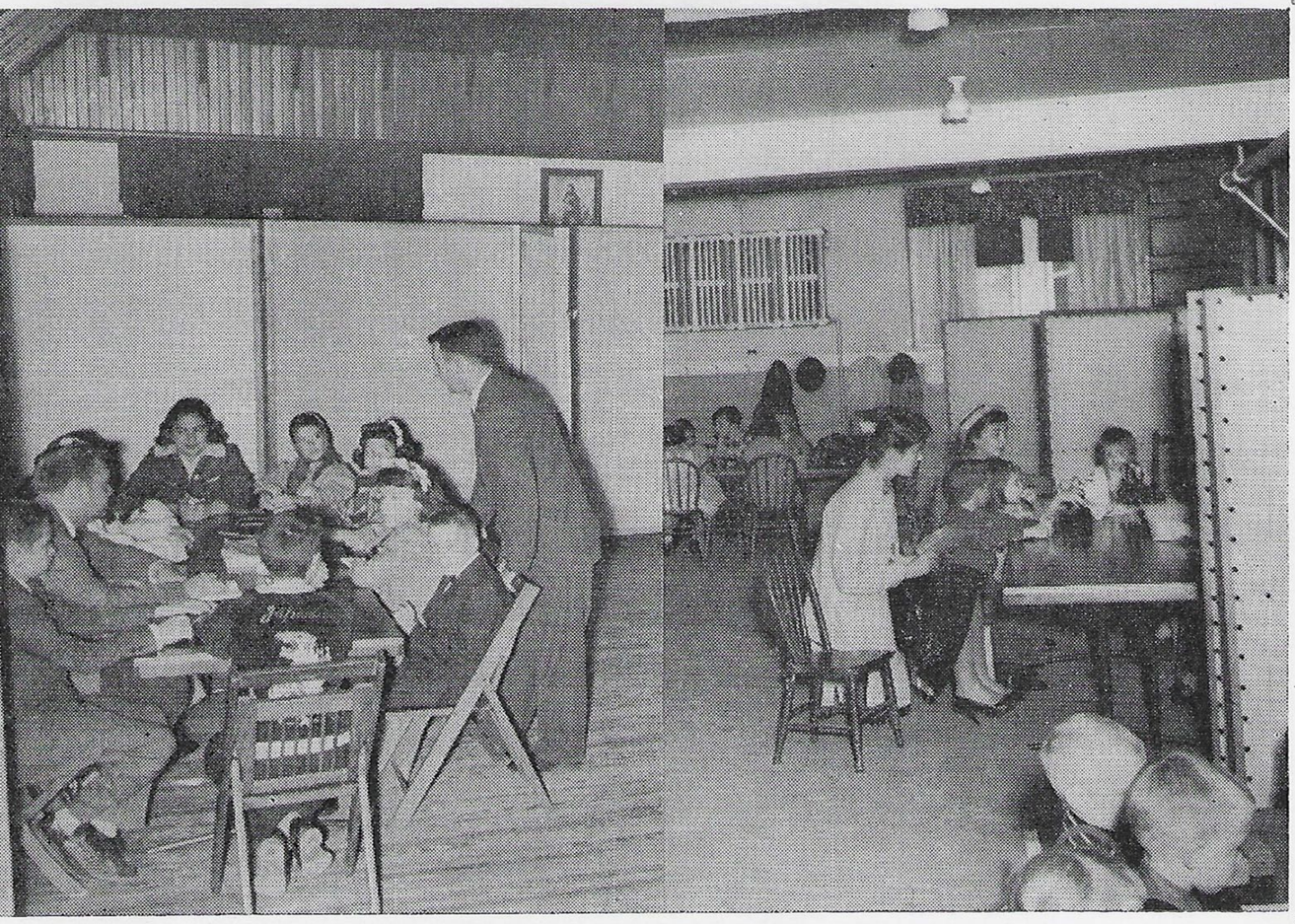
"That they may worthily sing his praise."

Choir Room, Rector's Office, Organ Machinery, Vestment Storage, Altar Appointments, Parish Files.—On Sunday morning the Choirs meet and vest while the Rector meditates???

OUR CHURCH SCHOOL

"That our young will wax strong in their Faith."

Our new Junior High Class under the direction of our Seminary Assistant meeting in the only available space—the kitchen.

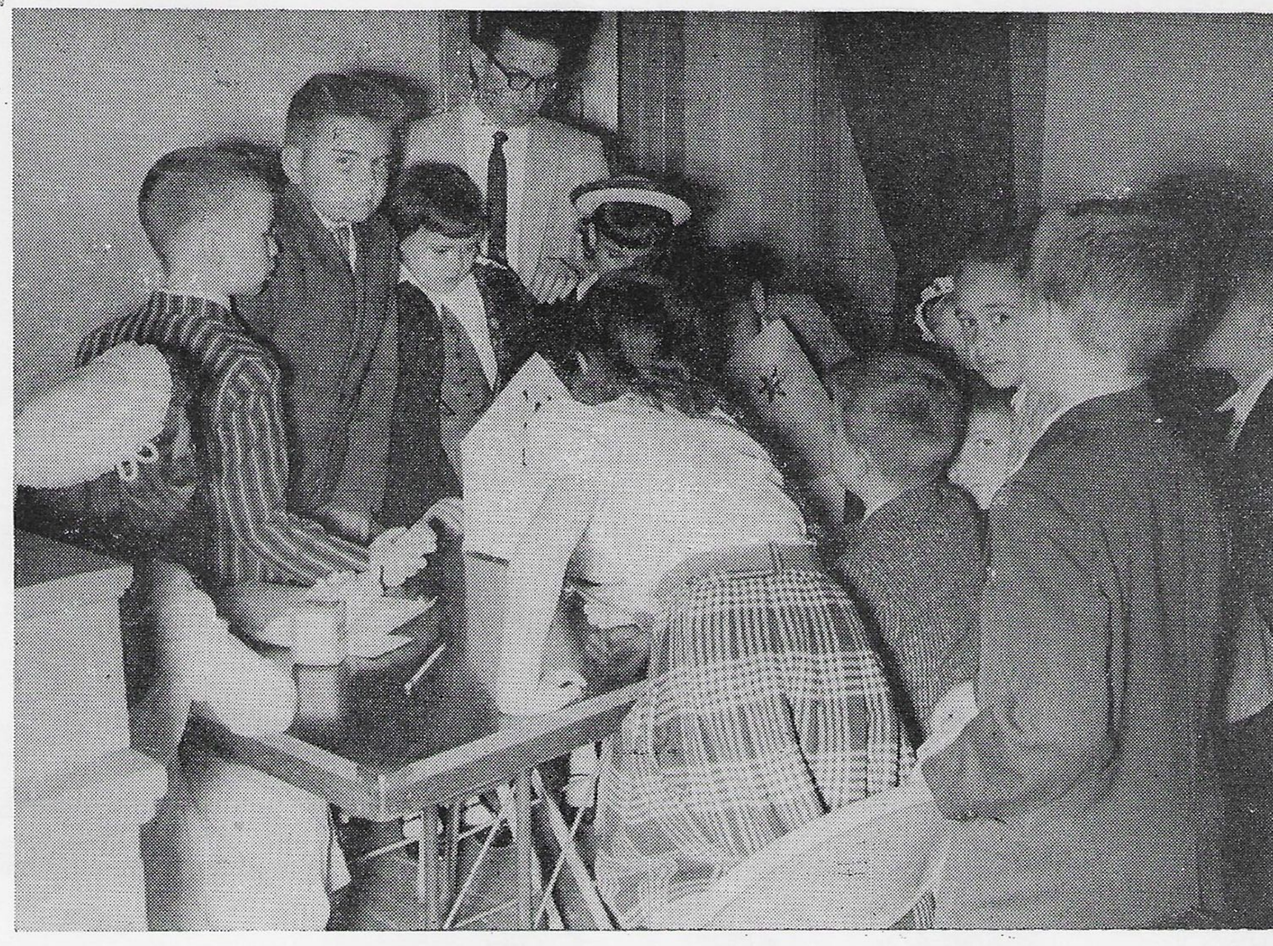


"That we may hear the word of God."

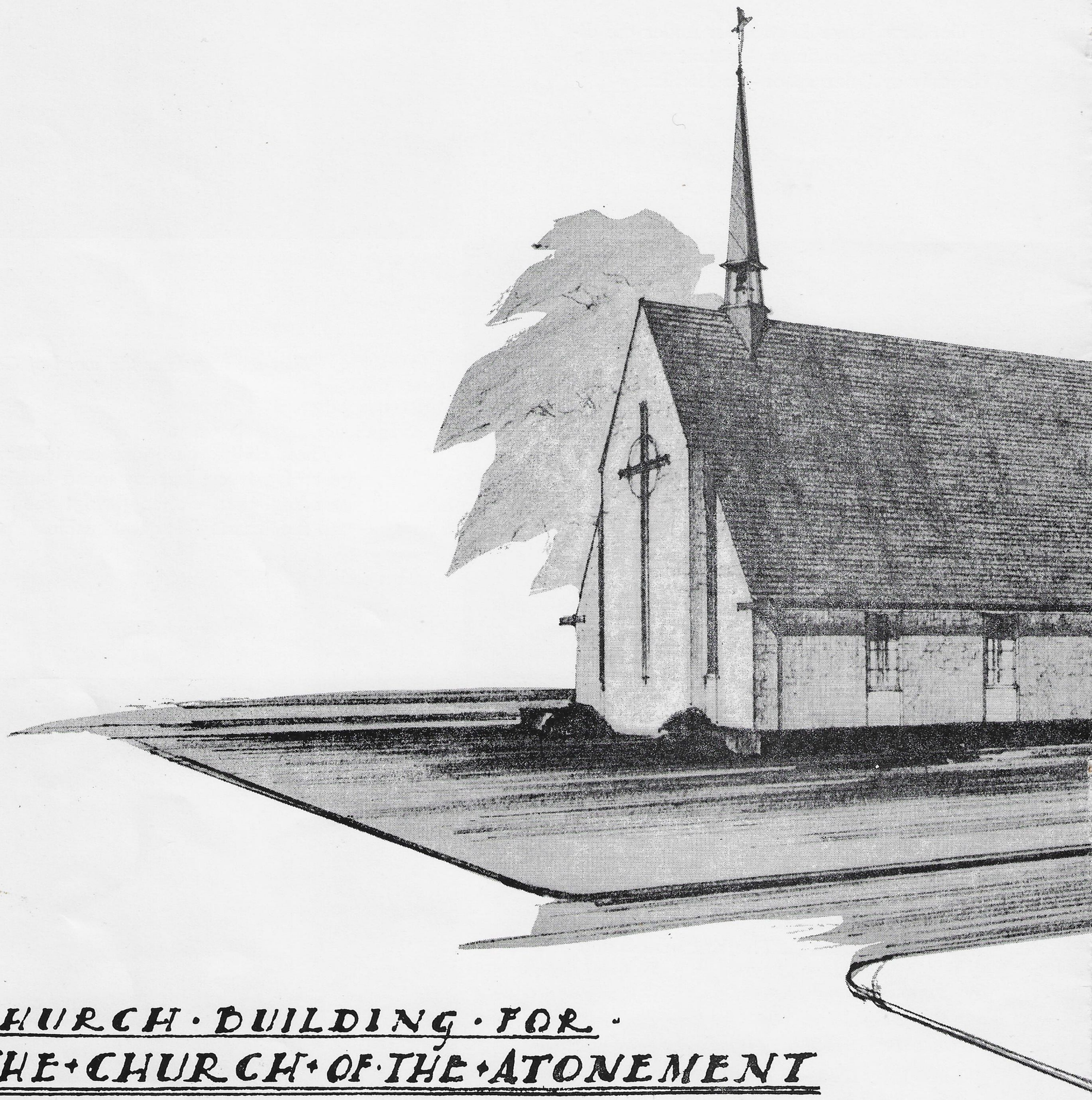
These sliding partitions provide some degree of privacy; but no sound barrier. Surrounding classes often disrupt the children and the "hearing" is questionable.

"That we may cease not to teach Jesus Christ."

The Altar has been moved and the stage utilized as this class struggles to learn Christian doctrine.—And the Fire Exit is blocked!!!

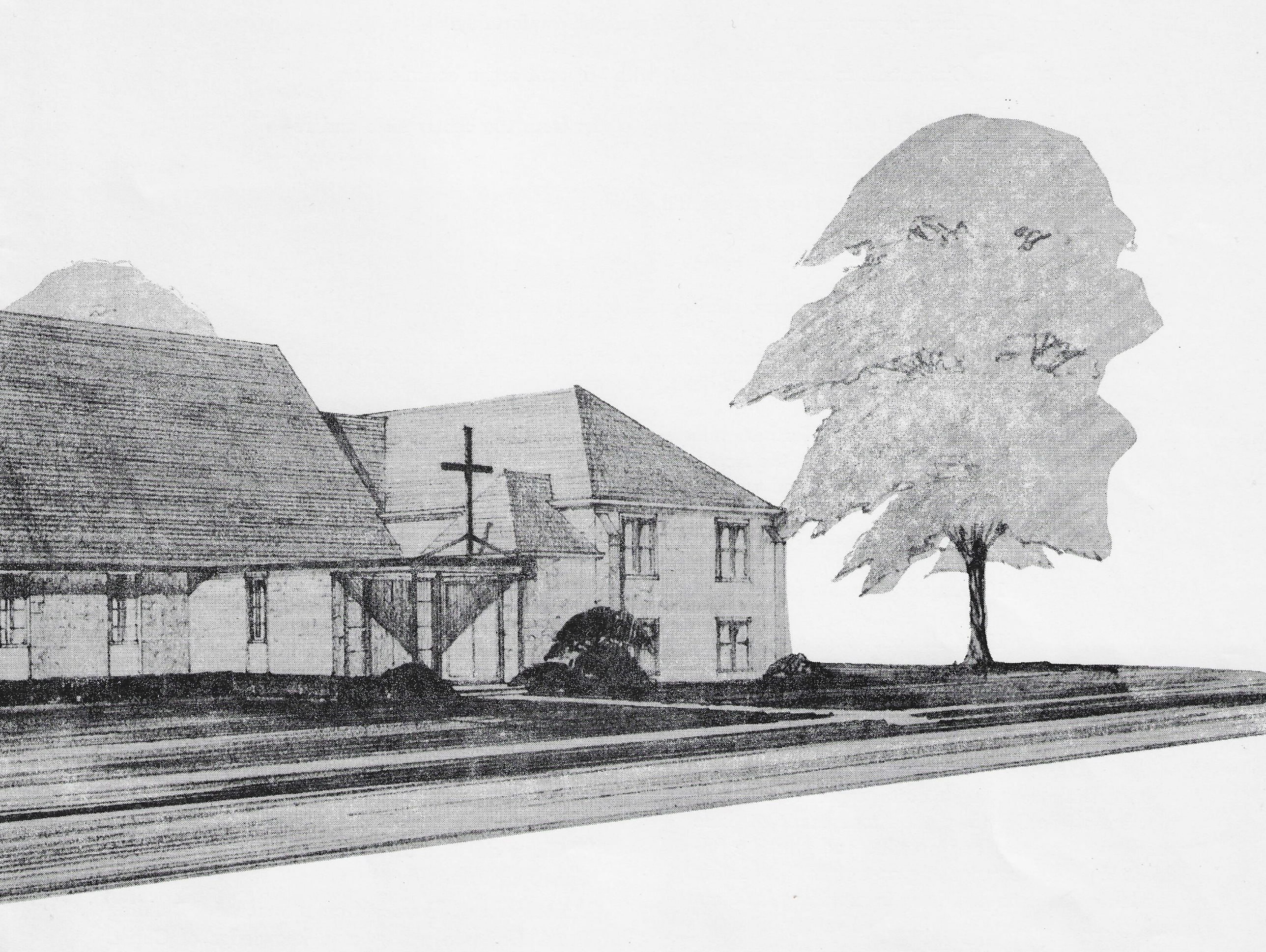


"Then should we set masons to hew wrought stone to build



CHURCH · BUILDING · FOR ·
THE · CHURCH · OF · THE · ATONEMENT
NORTON · PA.

the House of God."



OUR NEED

Ever since 1955 your Vestry has been wrestling with the problem of providing adequate room for our growing congregation to worship God, facilities to bring more effective Christian teaching to our Church School and utilities which will better serve all of the spiritual and social needs of the various Parish organizations.

The appointment of a Building Committee to study the overall situation brought out the following specific needs, all of which are classified as urgent:

1. Enough pews to seat at least 220 persons comfortably.
2. Choir stalls to accommodate 24, with adjacent organ console room.
3. A longer Altar rail, allowing easy access from the center aisle and recessing via each side aisle.
4. Ample provision for a pulpit and a lecturn.
5. A baptistry.
6. An adequate sanctuary, sacristy and acolyte wardrobe room.
7. Separate choir robing rooms for men and women, which can also be used for Parish group meetings during the week.
8. A vestibule, or Narthex, sufficient in size to provide for adequate coat racks, for greeting the Rector after services and for persons waiting for transportation in bad weather.
9. Twelve individual class rooms for the Church School.
10. Ample rest-room facilities, particularly in the Church School area.
11. A Rector's office and a Church School office.
12. Convenient storage space for the Church School supplies, janitor's equipment, and extra tables, chairs and other material.

It certainly should be quite apparent to every member of the Church of the Atonement that these needs are genuine, long overdue and must be fulfilled. With constantly rising cost of both materials and labor, any extended delay in providing for them will greatly increase our financial outlay.

The architect has already advised that any program to rehabilitate and extend our present Church building would be prohibitive in cost and, at best, would merely postpone the inevitable construction of a replacement. Therefore, the only answer is demolition of the existing structure and erection of a new, spacious and safe Church, incorporating in it the facilities so necessary to the advancement of God's kingdom through the ministrations of this Episcopal Parish.

Everyone will benefit from a Successful Building Fund. Children will gain in knowledge of Christ, learning His Gospel in an atmosphere of quiet and dignity. Adult members will be thankful for the vast improvements for their comfort and convenience. Church organizations will acquire space and equipment for their many activities.

OUR RESPONSIBILITY

The accomplishment of our first big step toward meeting the needs of this Parish is the responsibility of the entire membership. Each of us must undertake our individual part in their fulfillment.

For most of us, this is one of the greatest challenges we have ever faced. If our new Church is to be a reality, we must now recognize the true dimension of our objective—and with enthusiasm and determination to build it, dedicate ourselves to raise the necessary funds by prompt and decisive action.

The degree of success of our Building Fund depends entirely upon the size of our pledges to the campaign. In plain, cold truth we must achieve a high standard of giving which represents *equal sacrifice* by everyone. Any program designed to establish a pattern of equal giving would result in sacrifices by some and mere "token" contributions by others.

Here are suggested examples to help us determine our participation. These are based upon the principle of sharing according to *ability*. Please study them carefully before you arrive at your decision.

	Amount of weekly pledge for a:				
Total Annual Income	Single Person	Married Couple	Married Couple 1 Child	Married Couple 2 Children	Married Couple 3 Children
$ 3,000	$ 3.50	$ 2.25	$ 1.50	$ .85	$ .50
4,000	5.00	3.75	3.00	2.00	1.00
5,000	6.50	5.25	4.25	3.25	2.25
6,000	8.00	6.75	5.75	4.75	3.75
8,000	12.00	9.75	8.50	7.50	6.50
10,000	16.00	12.50	11.50	10.25	9.00

The task is not easy. It calls for a maximum of effort and self-denial. Our convictions will be reflected in our future blessings.

OUR PLAN OF ACTION

Three weeks of preparation, organization and training have preceded the Parish Dinner. We are well informed on existing conditions. Our goal has been established.

We now come to the actual solicitation point in our Campaign. The plan of canvassing has been formulated and is neither complicated nor "high-pressure" in its procedure.

On Sunday, May 3rd, between the hours of two and six in the afternoon, a member of our men's organization will visit us to discuss weekly contributions (for 156 weeks) to the Building Fund. This man will have made his own highest possible sacrificial pledge and is also giving of his time and talents to make the program a success.

When he comes we should be fully prepared, through earnest prayer and dedication, to accept our share in this most important stewardship movement.

"ALL THINGS COME OF THEE, O LORD AND OF THINE OWN HAVE WE GIVEN THEE"

A Prayer for the House of God

Almighty God, who has promised that wheresoever thy Name is recorded thou wilt come with thy Blessing, look with favor we beseech thee, upon our endeavors to build thy House in this place. Help us O Lord to make it worthy of thy Name and what thou hast wrought for us thru thy Son. And do thou move the hearts and wills of all in this parish to give and serve until our purpose is accomplished to thy honor and glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

OUR CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

GENERAL CHAIRMAN
JOHN MORTON

DIVISION CO-CHAIRMEN
Frank Stringer — Harper Myers

CAPTAINS
Joseph Abrams
Donald Atkinson
James Cannon
William English
William Harron
Francis Marion
Oscar Schmidt
Richard White

TEAM MEMBERS
Richard Belk
Albert Brownlee
J. M. Bye
Philip DelPrado
Leon Denson
Joseph Elwell
Charles Esola
Ward Goessling
James Gorbey
Frank Haller
Lyle Hankins
George Johnson
William Joyce
George Kohler
Karl Lieblong
Joseph MacCabe
William O'Brien
Donald Palmer
Frank Palmer
Thomas Santan
Christian Schuster
Fred Sharp
Charles Shaw
Brooke Simcox
Harry Sturges
Frank Suplee
Leroy Worrell
Hubert Wright
Michael Zayatz
(List Incomplete)

SPECIAL GIFTS
CHARLES PUGH

SPEAKERS
WILLIAM ECKARD

PUBLICATIONS
RICHARD BELK, *Chairman*
ROBERT HAMILTON

PUBLICITY
CHARLES ESOLA

CAMPAIGN TREASURER
KARL LIEBLONG

ARRANGEMENTS
MRS. HARRY LEWIS, *Chairman*
MRS. JOHN MORTON

HOSTESSES

GENERAL CHAIRMAN
MRS. FRANCIS MARION

CO-CHAIRMAN
Mrs. Harper Myers

CO-CHAIRMAN
Mrs. Oscar Schmidt

TABLE HOSTESSES
Mrs. John Barron
Mrs. Thomas Belk, Sr.
Mrs. James Boyle
Mrs. Harold Brown, Sr.
Mrs. Albert Brownlee
Mrs. J. M. Bye
Mrs. James Cannon
Mrs. Howard Cleland
Mrs. Evard Cottrill
Mrs. Leon Denson
Mrs. Norman Edmonson
Mrs. Joseph Elwell
Mrs. Charles Esola
Mrs. Franklin Haller
Mrs. Lyle Hankins
Mrs. Wesley Hargrave
Mrs. John Keyes
Mrs. Evans Lobb
Mrs. Norman Mac Leod
Mrs. Claude Pennington
Mrs. Charles Pugh
Mrs. William Raphial
Mrs. William Schumacher
Mrs. Fred Sharp
Mrs. Brooke Simcox
Mrs. Frank Stringer
Mrs. George Ticknor
Mrs. Richard White
Mrs. Leroy Worrell
Mrs. Hubert Wright

BUILDING COMMITTEE
James Elliott, *Chairman*

Albert Brownlee — Norman Mac Leod
Philip Del Prado — Frank Suplee